



**IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventors: Miller et al. **Examiner:** Ahmed, S.
5 **Serial No:** 10/061,836 **Group Art Unit:** 1765
Filing Date: 1/31/02 **Confirmation No:** 9497
Title: Methods and Systems for Forming Slots in a Substrate

10 **To:** Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

15 **From:** Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L.P.
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11/24/04

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

20 This communication is in response to the Final Office Action dated
9/17/04, for which a three-month shortened statutory period for response is set
for 12/17/04.

Amendment to the Claims are reflected on the list of claims which
begins on page 2 of this paper.

25 **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.